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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

2. (Amended) The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:
a front bulkhead including a vertical wall surface with an opening,
wherein a duct of the blower unit is connected to the opening for providing outside air into the blower unit.
3. (Amended) The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:
a toe board having a recessed portion, wherein said blower unit comprises a leg portion extended toward the toe board and engaged with the recessed portion.
4. (Amended) The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 2, further comprising:
a toe board having a recessed portion, wherein said blower unit comprises a leg portion extended toward the toe board and engaged with the recessed portion.
5. (Amended) A method for mounting a blower unit, said method comprising:
preparing an instrument panel including an upper panel and a lower panel that are vertically divided along a transverse direction of a vehicle body;

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forming a unitized component by assembling at least a steering support beam and a blower unit to the lower panel;

mounting the unitized component on the vehicle body; and

mounting the upper panel to the vehicle body.

6. (Amended) The method for mounting a blower unit as set forth in Claim 5, further comprising:

preparing a recessed portion which is mounted on a toe board;

preparing a leg portion which is mounted on a blower unit and is extended toward the toe board; and

engaging the leg portion with the recessed portion.

Please add the following new claims:

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A blower unit mounting structure comprising:

an instrument panel including a first panel and a second panel;

a support beam; and

a blower unit,

wherein the support beam and the blower unit are assembled to the second panel to form a unitary component prior to mounting the second panel onto a vehicle body.

8. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 7, further comprising:

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a bulkhead with an opening,

wherein a duct of the blower unit is connected to the opening for providing outside air into the blower unit.

9. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 7, further comprising:

a toe board having a recessed portion.

10. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 9, further comprising:

a leg portion extended toward the toe board and engaged with the recessed portion.

11. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 8, further comprising:

a toe board having a recessed portion.

12. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 11, further comprising:

a leg portion extended toward the toe board and engaged with the recessed portion.

13. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said first panel

includes an upper panel and said second panel includes a lower panel.

14. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said support beam comprises a steering support beam.

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15. A method for mounting a blower unit on a vehicle body, comprising:
preparing an instrument panel including a first panel and a second panel;
forming a unitary component by assembling at least a support beam and a blower unit to
the second panel; and
mounting the unitized component on a vehicle body.
16. The method for mounting a blower unit as set forth in Claim 15, further comprising:
mounting a bulkhead having an opening, wherein a duct of the blower unit is connected to
the opening for providing outside air into the blower unit.
17. The method for mounting a blower unit as set forth in Claim 15, wherein said first panel
includes an upper panel and said second panel includes a lower panel.
18. The method for mounting a blower unit as set forth in Claim 15, wherein said support
beam comprises a steering support beam.
19. The method for mounting a blower unit as set forth in Claim 15, wherein the first panel
and the second panel are vertically divided along a transverse direction of a vehicle body.
20. The method for mounting a blower unit as set forth in Claim 15, further comprising:
preparing a recessed portion which is mounted on a toe board;

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preparing a leg portion which is mounted on the blower unit and extended toward the toe board; and

All

engaging the leg portion with the recessed portion.
